

# Watauga Democrat.

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## An Ancient Manuscript.

General Thomas L. Clingman has furnished the *Evening Journal* with a copy of a letter describing Jesus, which was found in ancient manuscript, sent by Publius Lentulus President of Judea, to the Roman Senate. It is as follows:

"There lives at this time, in Judea a man of singular character, whose name is Jesus Christ. The barbarians esteem him as a prophet but his followers adore him as the immediate offspring of God. He is endowed with such unparalleled virtue as to be able to call back the dead from their graves, and to heal every sort of disease with a word or touch. His person is tall and elegantly shaped; his aspect amiable and reverend. His hair flows in those beautiful shades which no united colors can match, falling in graceful curls below the ears, agreeably touching on his shoulders and parting on the crown of his head, like the head dress of the sect called Nazarines. His forehead is smooth and his cheeks without spot, save that of a lovely red. His nose and mouth are formed with exquisite symmetry. His beard is thick and suited to the hair of his head, reaching a little below his chin, and parted in the middle like a fork. His eyes are bright, serene and clear. He rebukes with majesty, and counsels with persuasive language. His whole address, whether in word or being, is elegant, grave and strictly characteristic of so exalted a being. No man has ever heard him laugh, but all Judea has frequently beheld him weep, and so persuasive are his tears that the multitudes are unable to restrain theirs from mingling with his.

He is very modest, temperate and wise. Whatever this phenomenon may be in the end, he now seems to be a man of strange beauty and divine perfection, in every way surpassing the children of men."

Concerning the genuineness of this letter, Gen. Clingman writes the *Evening Journal* the following interesting communication:

SIR—The letter of Publius Lentulus, President of Judea

to the Roman Senate, struck me so favorably that I sent a copy of it to the Citizen, in whose columns it appeared, in last Sunday's issue. I suggest that it might be well also, for you to publish that interesting and beautiful letter itself.

I would like, through your paper, to present to the public a brief argument in support of its genuineness, which has struck most favorably several prominent gentlemen to whom I told it. The argument is this:

No Christian would have been willing to invent and publish it, for two reasons: his conscience would not have allowed him to practice a fraud, and he must have seen that its discovery as an invention would have injured the cause of Christianity; again, no disbeliever or opponent of Christianity would have been willing to have a statement given out that would tend so much to strengthen his opponents.

For example, no member of one of the political parties of today would pretend to have discovered a manuscript of George Washington, the publication of which would greatly strengthen his opponents.

I think it would be well that these suggestions should be published in connection with the letter referred to above. Yours respectfully,  
T. L. CLINGMAN.

## THE NEW STATES.

The political changes that will accompany the admission of the four new commonwealths into the sisterhood of States have already been adverted to. The Senate will be increased by eight new members, and the House will also have a larger membership. The Republicans will gain in the Senate six new Senators and the Democrats two, the Montana assembly being Democratic. Republican ascendancy in that body is thus likely to be assured for several years. In the House the difference is not so perceptible; nor will the situation in the electoral College be greatly altered. Notwithstanding all the new States may vote for the Republican nominee, the necessity will still exist for the Republicans to carry either New York or Indiana as heretofore, to assure their success.

But important as these changes are, what challenges comment even more, is the creation at one time of four sovereign States. Referring to this the *Herald* notes the changes wrought in the status of the people in the territories. Heretofore they have been governed at Washington, the President appointing their Governors, Judges, &c. and they have no voice in the election of the President. They have been subjects of the United States. Hereafter they cease to be subjects of the United States and become citizens of their States. Their States become sovereign and independent. They attain rights which neither Congress nor the Pres-

ident nor any other State may encroach upon. From mere territories for which Congress can make laws—indeed whose existence depends on the will and authority of Congress, they become nationalities, free from any outside control save alone that the Congress guarantees to them a Republican form of government. They take rank with the other members of the Union. And if three fourths of the States should so amend the Constitution of the Union as virtually to abrogate it, the would be as sovereign as France or Italy or any other country. All of these sovereign powers they could then exercise attach to these commonwealths now at their creation and inception; some being dormant or in abeyance pending the continuance of the Union, and, under the constitution, to be exercised only by the Federal government. In modern history we find the birth of but few new States abroad. Poland was a State, but was conquered, and ceased to exist. Roumania, Servia and Bulgaria have been erected into nations with some sovereign powers, but they are not entirely independent. The making of these new States here in America is a great event, and the occasion should be used as an object lesson to remind the people of the nature and character of our American commonwealths. —*News and Observer*

## Waiting for Gabriel.

A rumor that the little band of Adventists located at Eatontown, N. J., had fixed upon midnight to-night as the end of the world, and that a farewell of all things earthly was to have been taken yesterday, attracted several curious people to the pretty little village yesterday afternoon. It had been asserted that these followers of the doctrine of William Miller, the Massachusetts enthusiast and the founder of the secret, were ready with their ascension robes and were waiting in the full expectation that the sun was to rise but once more and that with the coming of Oct., 7th the dread trumpet would be sounded and the "third woe" of Revelations made manifest.

The report that a specific day and hour had been set by Eatontown believers was found to be incorrect, and had probably become current—according to the belief of Ezekiel Wolcott, the local leader—because the Adventists of New England had positively fixed upon the tenth month of the year, 1889, as the time for the fulfillment of the prophecy. In Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire the Millerites, or Adventists, have proclaimed that the end is to come on the seventh day of the tenth month. The difference between the Roman and Jewish Calendar makes it impossible, they say, to be accurate as to the exact day, and while they aver that Scriptu-

ral authority fixes the seventh, they place this seventh between the 10th and 25th of October of the present year. It is claimed that the error made by Miller, when he predicted the destruction of the world in 1843 and all subsequent errors, were due to defective calculation, and that these errors were discovered in 1874, after Gabriel did not blow his horn in 1878 careful and exhaustive research has convinced the present leaders of the movement they have at last, in their possession the key to the mystery, and that there cannot possibly be a mistake this time.

"I believe," said Ezekiel Wolcott to the World reporter yesterday, "that this is the year when the Messiah shall appear a second time on earth, but I also believe that no man knoweth the hour of his coming. In 1873 I was firmly convinced that the hour was at hand—so firmly indeed, that I made myself poor, in disposing of my worldly possessions. The Lord was gracious to me however, and I afterward, had enough to make me comfortable. I shall not do this year as I did in 1873."

Mr. Wolcott belongs to one of the most numerous represented families in the township. There is old David Wolcott, three Edward Wolcotts, Bloomfield Wolcott, Edmund Wolcott, and Henry and William Wolcott; the sons of Ezekiel Wolcott. It is related that in 1873 one of the elders of the church, related to this family, became so thoroughly convinced that the day was at hand that he mounted to the roof of his house, and there waited until it became dark. While he stood there a brilliant meteor shot across the sky. The elder took the flight of this heavenly wanderer as a signal, and, crying with a loud voice, "The hour has come!" he leaped into space.

People in the lower part of the house were startled by a loud crash at the same moment, and they ran out to see the elder shoot through a grape arbor and land partly on his nose and partly on his stomach. One of his arms was broken and he was so painfully bruised that large quantities of liniment were found necessary to ease his pain.

While it is a fact that the regular attendants at Ezekiel Wolcott's modest little chapel are looking for the world's end tonight, some of the ignorant negroes around Oceanport and near Sea-bright believe that it is about time for them to put away things that are of the earth, earthly. Seraphine Smith, a large coffee-colored woman, has had a lovely robe made of cambric, with scarlet love knots at the throat and waist. The garment is loose and flowing, and those who have had the privilege of seeing on Seraphine's ample form say she looks very pure and innocent. Seraphine weighs 280 pounds.

Gossips about Oceanport say that old Simon Goddison, who lives in the pines with his two maiden sisters, is the one white man white man near Eatontown who pins his faith to the specific prophecy made by his New England brethren, that he has given \$10 each to the dozen negroes who live near him, besides lots of provisions. Cam Johnson, the son of "Mingo Jack," who was lynched three years ago, is said to have developed a religious frenzy, and to be waiting anxiously for the time to come. He is a miserable creature, and of course, is not recognized in any way by the Adventists under the leadership of Mr. Wolcott. None of the negroes has any affiliation with the Eatontown sect, and whatever fanaticism they have developed is purely individual and independent of any body of believers in the doctrine.

## How Gordon Died.

The African traveler, Herr Fricke, who has since 1875 been in Africa, and escaped from Khartoum after Gen. Gordon's death, is now in Berlin.

Gordon, always calm and undaunted, did not even for a moment show any outward signs of excitement, not even when his own soldiers refused to obey him any longer because their pay was in arrears. In the last fortnight they had to fight every night, and after every engagement it was found that numbers of their soldiers had gone over to the Mahd's camp. Three days before the fall of Khartoum he said: "Now it is the highest time for the relieving force to arrive." He repeatedly urged his European followers to fly from Khartoum, but as he refused to do so, they would not leave their General in the lurch.

About his last moments Herr Fricke says: "It is not true that that he was assassinated as he came down on hearing the sounds of a riot among the soldiers. He came, as was his wont every morning, to inspect the soldiers, with his stick in hand. He never carried a sword, not even while fighting. As he came out of the house some of his own soldiers hurled their spears at him, and this was the sign for a general massacre." Herr Fricke, when he saw the General lying dead, fled by a by-path to the Nile, where he secured a small boat, in which he escaped down the river. He told me that, although he suffered many privations and incurred many dangers, he finally escaped, owing to his being a Mussulman, and so understanding all the customs and ritual ceremonies. From Berber he journeyed with a caravan to Sukkin. Herr Fricke positively asserts that two days before the fall of Khartoum Gen. Gordon might have escaped, with all the Europeans, had not his fatal determination stood in his way. —*News-Observer*.

The elections in the New States make an era in the history of this country, since the bringing in at once of four new States is a great affair in the life of the Union. Such an event will never occur again. In addition the new ideas of the day led the progressive people of the new States to submit questions to the popular vote of more or less interest.

In the two Dakotas and Washington the people voted on constitutional prohibition. The probability is that that question was answered in the negative by the people of each State.

Woman suffrage was defeated in Washington, and minority representation was defeated in South Dakota.

In Montana there were no such side issues. The Democrats appear to have carried the Legislature in Montana which ensures two new Democratic Senators against six new Republicans. We learn that all the new members of the House of Representatives are Republicans.

There is no probability of the erection in the immediate future of any other new States except New Mexico, and one to be carved out of the Indian Territory.

## News and Observer.

### The Montana Election.

HELENA, MONT., Oct. 8.—The latest returns give a Democratic majority of seven on joint ballot in the Legislature, with one in doubt, which may increase the majority to nine. In several counties the vote is very close, but it is not thought the official canvassing will make any material change.

Toole, Democrat, is elected for Governor by a majority of about 800; Carter Republican, for Congress, has a majority of about 1,200.

### Bond offerings.

Washington, Oct. 8.—Bond offerings today aggregated \$110,500, all accepted at 1.27 for fours and 105% for four and a half.

SCOTT & ERVIN,  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,  
Lenoir, N. C.

T. B. FINLEY,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

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Jefferson, N. C.

W. B. COUNCILL, JR.  
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

July 4th 891y. Boone, N. C.  
W. B. COUNCILL, M. D.  
Boone, N. C.

Resident Physician. Office on King Street north of Post Office.  
June 12 88. 1y.

DR. L. C. REEVES.  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON  
Office at Coffey's Hotel,  
Boone, N. C.  
July 4. 89.

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July 18 89—6 mo.